

# Leprosy Control Strategies for low endemic situations

## Outline

- Low endemic
- Integration
- Referral systems

## Low endemic

- New cases detected during the year 2006
  - 16 countries are reporting more than 1000
  - 13 countries are reporting 500 to less than 1,000 new cases annually
  - 27 countries are reporting 100 to less than 500 new cases annually
  - 68 countries are reporting less than 100 new cases annually

## Low endemic

- New case detection in the top 16 countries detecting more than 1,000 cases during 2006
  - Represents 95% of the global total
  - India reported 139,252, Brazil 44,436 and Indonesia 17,682, DR Congo 8,257 and Bangladesh 6,280
  - Remaining 11 countries reporting between 1,000 to 5,000

## Integration

- Case-finding
- Treatment and management of complication
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Disability prevention and rehabilitation

## Case-finding

- Promote self reporting through improving community awareness
- Special activities to reach out to uncovered population groups/areas i.e. awareness campaigns, skin camps

## Treatment and Management of Complications

- Ensure that patients can easily access health facilities for diagnosis
- Treatment should be made available at the nearest health facility and in a flexible (Accompanied MDT) and patient friendly way
- Integrated referral centers are identified to which patients can be referred for diagnosis and management of complications

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- Main indicators
  - New case detection (absolute number and rate)
  - Cure rates (treatment completion rates) for PB and MB cases
- Additional indicators
  - New case children proportion
  - New case grade 2 disabilities proportion
  - New case MB proportion
  - New case female proportion

## Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation

- PoD should form an essential component of patient care and management
- Self-care and home based care is affordable and sustainable
- Involvement of family and community
- Integrated services for rehabilitation of disabled in the community
- Involvement of other government and NGO agencies (e.g. social welfare, labour, finance, education etc.)

## Referral System

- Aim: support primary health care services in diagnosis of difficult cases and management of complications
- Integrated: part of existing services i.e. general medicine, dermatology, ophthalmology and orthopedic
- Effective: patients are able to get easy access to the referral center and receive appropriate care
- Complete: patients are referred back to the nearest health facility whenever possible depending on the patient condition